Happy Halloween!

The Middle School Good Times

Vol. 13 #1 Michigan Ave. Middle School, Paw Paw, MI Oct.1986 25¢

Krause, Y., Njus, J., Meyer, B. and Brown, J.

Pictured above are the new student council officers.

Jeff Njus is the new student council president, Brian Meyer is his vice-president, Jessica Brown is treasurer and Yvette Krause is the new secretary.

Delegates from the eighth grade include Alex Stevens, Kerry Tokarchick, Bill McNeil, Sue Pasterik, Brett Baney and Tony Millek. Alternates are Jennifer Sommerfelt, Chris Stratton, Hut Tapp, Tyler Silber, Kim Haefner, Rochelle Motter, and Paul Mangone.

Delegates from the seventh grade are Dana Flanders, Mark Erickson, Matt Hughes, Rusty Martin, and Shannon TErry. Alternates are Jenny Bergeson, Allison Spartz, Kristi Flesher, Stacy Kruizenga Becky Burge, Becky Ballard and Pete Koppers.

Delegates from sixth grade are Eric Laskovy, Sara Markovich, Ben Edinger, Jessica Bell, and Stephanie Kowalski. Alternates are Christine Curry, Bob Zinkil, Angie Finnerman, Randy McKenzie and Brooke Stubbs.

The first student council dance will be held November 14.

Lifeskills Teacher Miss Oswald

New to the middle school this fall is Miss Oswald who is teaching life skills to eighth graders along with Mrs. Mahanty.

Miss Oswald grew up in Texas,but in 7th grade when her family moved to Portage where she began school. She graduated from Portage schools and decided to base her college career on psychology. She had worked in the field of psychology for two years before coming to Paw Paw.

Her first day she was very nervous but she managed to get through it.

She enjoys teaching because she likes to get acquainted with teen-agers and listen to the ideas they have.

Her goal in life skills is to teach teens to understandthemselves and to feel better about themselves.

If you have Miss Oswald you will probably be learning about problem-solving, communication skills and making decisions.

by H. Briley

How do You Like it So Far?

What do this year's sixth graders think of the middle school? Good Times reporters interviewed several sixth graders. Here is what they discovered.

Amber Motter "likes it much better than elementary. She likes lockers and the desks are better. " Jennifer Jacobson said,"It's different. I like the fact that I can get away from brothers and sisters."Rob Peplinski likes "switching classes and doesn't like some of the teachers."

Stephanie Kowalski likes "specials lasting longer. " She doesn't like "showers." Doug Marr likes "not sitting in the same class all day."He did not like "calesthenics."

Rick Bonnau likes "not seeing the same teachers all day." Elaine Bruns "doesn't like table monitoring

because she misses recess."

Sheila Perkins is already worrying about "how to make up work when you're sick." Danielle Schlueter, Richard Forbes, Angie Finnerman and Elena Chavez don't like "lunches."

Sean Dundon likes changing classes. He think there's "Too much homework."

By and large it appeared that while they had their complaints these were offset by their likes .

HB/ MB/ MW

Surviving The 8th Grade

It's the beginning of the school year
All minds blank, ready, and in gear,
Homework, homework, tests and more homework,
Seem to go to together just like clockwork.
Ring! Ring! end of the day.
Time to go home for a fifteen-hour homestay.
Back again and in the seventh hour,
No homework yet-
150 word essay on life- test due tomorrow,
Well, there goes my chance to be free
At least for one day of"surviving the 8th grade."

j. forrest

What Makes You Angry?

Do you get mad at your parents a lot? We do.And so do most teens. The problem with some parents is they worry too much. For instance since one mom heard that a 13 year-old boy was kidnappedin Battle Creek, she now makes her son stay in the house until the bus picks him up. She always has an excuse for why she is holding a knife or something. Before we know, this poor mom will be cleaning the shot gun. Other teens complain that their parents give them no privacy. Parents think there is something wrong with us. Maybe they ought to have to check the way they're treating us and lay back some.

If you would like to write a letter to the editor for the Good Times ,just place it in Ms. Swanson's mailbox or drop it off in room 203.

bb

To the Editor

Dear Editor,

I think school lucnh should not be $1.00 a tray. I believe it is not worht $1.00. I understand that the food is expensive and it takes good money to buy and to cook.

I also disagree with the cost of milk. 25¢ is just too much for a pint of milk. Many of us can most likely recall when it was only 10¢ a few years ago.

The food is in some ways okay but it could be improved. Not only the lunch could be improved but many otherthings could be much better. I think we need better food and freer conversation. The seating arrangement needs changing.

Gretchen Neumeier

Cafeteria Seating -

The situation of students having to sit at assigned seats is not fair. We think that students should be able to sit at any table. This would result in fewer people deliberately switching tables. It would also reduce the noise because fewer people would be shouting and walking around.

On the other hand, it would make the jobs of the table monitors harder. Mr. Drury probably has good reasons for the seating policy.

B. McNeil

Football

When the ball is hiked the runners dash, the linemen crash and of course the safeties smash.
For when the dust clears,
The fans cheer
In favor of their peers.
When they see the job done,
(at least for game one)
The hometown has won!

't silber

Halloween Night

Spooky masks and spooky faces
Running around in all the dark places
Batman, Superman and all of the heroes
I even saw a man carrying a bowl of Cheerios.
Halloween is here; it comes and goes
It's always fun, that everyone knows.
Spooky skeletons, scarey ghosts
Many parties you can be the host.
You can be a policeman patroling his beat,
Anything you want, trick or treat.

c. stratton

HALLOWEEN IMAGES

Flickering candle-lit faces
Glow through the shadows.
Spectral shapes race
through the darkness,
The laughter of children
Arises from the night.
Wrappers of candies float
in the wind,
The chimes sound ten times
Creatures of every sort slowly
Clear the street.
Phosphorescent faces fade away.
The shadows return again.

josh diedrich

Rocket Football Season

Paw Paw Rocket football has been having as successful a season as the Paw Paw high school. Thus far they are undefeated.

The teams in the middle school level include Chris Kuhlman, Shelton Mitchell, Brett Baney, Tony Millek, Scott Bielski, Ricky Yarbrough, Greg STraka, Corey Coskey, Brain Hunt, Butch Murray, James Emmons, Matt Nuismer, Jason Good, James Ford, Phil Fleming, Mike Kerns, Mike Bommerscheim, Brett Herwick, Mike Cox, Kris Nelson, Jason Bowers, Tony Charron, and Chad Kuhlman.

sb/ck

Mr. Brill's Student Teacher

Ms. Dalmaso is the student teacher working with Mr. Brill. She therefore teaches both seventh and eighth grade classes.

She has previously taught at Gobles. She is here to finish getting certification. She used to work in Florida where she is originally from.

She said she enjoyed the staff here and the building. Most of her experience has been at the junior high level. She is enjoying working with Mr. Brill. She feels everyone has been friendly and the students have pleasantly been what she hoped they would be.

mc/hb/bs

October leaves fall
As a pumpkin lights the way
Kids say trick or treat.

November has come
And also comes Thanksgiving
And a Turkey Feast.

gn

Snakes Visit Snyder's Science

Mr. Snyder's 7th grade classes were visited by Tom Lects and Gary Baum who gave them an orientation on snakes.

Tom grew up in this area in Almena near Wolf LAke Fish Hatchery. His reasons for collecting reptiles came about because of his allergies to fur-bearing animals and also because he needed a hobby. During his school career he wrote most of his book review and other work on reptiles. Now he is a funeral director in the Chicago area.

He brought with him a wide variety of snakes that the students could hold. In his career he has been bitten twice by poisonous snakes. Most of the snakes in the display were brought by Bary Baum, a pet store owner in Elgin, Illinois . Gary is a friend of Tom's and they have traveled to Africa together. This year they are planning a trip to Ecuador.

Tom was bitten in 1980 by a sidewinde in the thumb. It swelled and throbbed . Venom was injected into his body. Tom's allergies caused him to have to have the shots for almost a year after the bite.

One of the snakes that were brought in was a Florida indigo, a slim fast-moving snake bale to track down its food, not like the larger snakes who have to wait for the food to find them. This snake smoves in a serpentile movement or "S" shape.

Many questions were asked about the snakes such as how they are able to smell, how they hear and about their physical characteristics.

Other snakes displayed included the the albino, speckled king, California kind and a python.

The students were very entertained when handling time came. Another fascinating day in our school.

by Chris Stratton and Niki Finnerman

Be Safe Tonight!

Be safe tonight- Dress in light colors- Wear reflective clothing if possible and carry a flashlight. Watch how you shoot across the streets. Come back safe and cavity-free(don't eat it all in one week-end) on Monday.

WHAT WILL WE BE this EVE?

The Good Timers were out and about asking everyone what he or she would like to be for Halloween, even the teachers.

Mr. Snyder said he'd like to be "Neut the mannequin." Mr. Watterworth said he'd be "home." Mr. Martin would be the "invisible man."

Mrs. Kalisiak wants to be a"dirty old man." Mr. Kanegieter would be "a mummy," while Mrs. Chavoya would be "A clown." Mr. Brill would be "the great pumpkin" and Mrs. Davidson would be "Anne Boleyn."

Mr. Cassell would be "Peewee Herman." Mr. Sang would be a "cabbage patch kid." Mrs. Matson would be a "bumble bee." Miss Oswald would be a "Cat." Mrs. Mahanty would be a "maharajah."

Mr. Topp would be "Doctor Death." Mr. Zolp would be an "NIMH Inspector." Mrs. Reinsch would be a "Cat." Mrs. Dobbs would be a "nurse". Mr. Drury would be a "keebler elf." Mr. Edinger says he'd be "tinkerbell." Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Smith would be dressed as "Notre Dame" . Mrs. Conolly would be "a yellow cryon." Mr. Ruesink would be "Rip Van Winkle" and Mrs. Vliek would be a "witch."

Mrs. Swanson would be "a mom walking her kids around the neighborhoods of P.P.", and Mr. Erickson would be his usual "pineapple."

What did the students plan to be for Halloween? Richard Stewart would be "a girl" as would Brad Green. Tonya Johnson would be a "cheerleader." Becky Ballard would be a "farmer," while John Ashbaugh would be "Buckwheat."

Becky Burge would be "an Hawaiian girl", Jeff Nius would be "She -Ra." Amy Houghton would be "Pee Wee Herman with his bike." Heather Chabith and and Mike Brauche would be "people going to parties." Rusty Martin, Kristyn Rockwell and Teresa Rice would be "punk." Estrella Matyas would be "Mother Goose."

Amy Buskirk and Sheletha Manuel would be "playboy bunnies." Melissa Ogden would be "a football player."

Michelle Bean would be "an alley cat." Scott Bielski would be "a streaker." Sam Cozart would be a "nerd."

Penny Farrow would be "Mr. Brill." Jennifer Kopec would be "Madonna." Matt McIntyre would be " a wolverine." ChrisStratton would be " a thief." Brandi Sheler would be "a bag of jelly beans."

Jim Karban would be " Mr. Rogers." Brett Herwick has no idea who he'd be. Jenny LEe wants to be"I don't know what", whatever that is.

TiffanyHte wants to be a "smurfette " Josh Diedrich wants to be a "spy." Miles Blakley and Allen Kowalski want to be streakers. And Gretchen Neumeier says, you're never too old to get rotten teeth." Finally John Lean sums things up best when he says, he wants to receive"because it's more fun than giving."

mb

"Hairy" Suggestions

Jenny Lee and Michelle Wright surveyed the 6th graders to find out their favorite hair styles.

Bobby Zinkil wants a Tom Cruise haircut and Jeremy Brown wants a Don Johnson haircut.

Twenty people want Mohawks. Kolli Goodwin wants,"a blu and gold mohawk" and Wendy Ward wants "a mohawk with '93' shaved on one side and W.W. on the other."

Thirty people want short hair and thirty people wanted spiked hair also. Sara Veldt wants "short wavy hair with bright red mousse or gell in it." Twenty-seven want perms, eight people want long hair and six people wnat feathered hair.

Mr. Lutz wants "an afro." Can you imagine that? Mr. Ruesink wants "dreadlocks" What is that? We don't know.

Ninety-seven said that they would change their hairstyle. Only thirty-one people said that they wouldn't change theirs at all.

Test Taking & Other Woes

The teacher gave a test
The kid next to me is a pest.
Actually the kid is a jerk,
But anyway my teacher gave us homework.
Hopefully tomorrow will be a bette day,
So I can go out and play.

t.podkol

Night Before Halloween

The night before Halloween,
And all through the house,everyone was carving except the pet mouse.
There was my hat as I sat carving my pumpkin.
For tomorrow is Halloween.

As I went to my bed
I thought of trick-or -treating
All the candy I'll be eating
would give me a stomach ache.
I'll try to share but I don't dare
"give an inch and they'll take a mile."

My sister too young to be trick-r-treating
Is one with whom I must shre the sweets
I will get- they have to be split
Maybe I'll get to pinch an extra pice for me.

As I lay there snug in my bed
visions of sugar bonbons pranced in my head. Then I heard a noise
Someone was rattling my toys.
Quick to my lamp
I heard them stumbleand mumble.

As I saw light I got a fright
For there was a creep.
There I stood scared as could be.
He was coming for me. I ran to my gun case, I aimed for his face. I shot the pistol infright.
I forgot. Out came the cork with a loud "pop". Then I ran non-stop!

I made it out from my house. I grabbed ny pet mouse . He nipped as the creep crept down the stair-way. I dropped my enemy the mouse and from the shack to the house.

To get out, to protect my family.
I will shoot the creep who ter-rorizes families right before their eyes. I had him stopped now. He's gone- to bug no more. He's in the ground buried feet down.

I woke up with a start. My feet were apart as I stood in our yard in my jamas. What? Am I too late? Did I miss it? No more treats til next Halloween?

And I had to exlaim as I walked out of sight-happy halloweeen to all and to all- good night. k.rogers

Autumn Terror

It was eight o'clock during an autumn night. It was dark because a cold front was coming in. It brought sleet and rain . As the wind blew I felt chilled to the bone.

I just came back from walking my girlfriend home. AS I was walking down the street lightening struck the bridge causing it to collapse.

Suddenly I felt stranded. The road was closed and I decidéd to try to make it back ti my friend's house.

I ran towards the house when I stepped and fell on the muddy path. I fell into a deep gully. I had hurt my leg. I crawled to shelter under a fallen tree. When I looked up I saw a figure coming towards me.

He was dragging something behind him. When he got close I could see that he was human only its face was white as snow. His eyes were dark black and he was dressed in dark clothing.

Next I saw the object it was dragging. It was an ax. I stopped breathing, hoping it would not see me. I could see my hand shaking as he came closer. He raised his ax and with a crash struck the tree I was hiding under.

I screamed with horror. All of a sudden I heard a voice yelling, "Here she is. I found her." It was my uncle Ed. He had come to find me with a search party.

t.bennett

October 30, the day before Hallow-een, James and Butch were wandering around at night on their atc's. They thought they'd have a blast since Halloween was the next day.

James said to Butch," You know what? I think we're lost."

Butch replied,"I think there's gas station right up there. What do you say we fill up and get something to eat?"

James said, "Sure. Maybe the guy at the station can tell us where we are."

When asked, the man answered,"Don't you know? Boy youre in Bakersfield."

"Bakersfield?" James repeated. "Have you ever heard of it, Butch?"

" Nope."Butch asked,"Is there a hotel nearby?"

"Not for fifty miles."

The gas station attendant asked

Butch to tell him how they'd arrived in Bakersfield to begin with.

"Well we were riding around on our atc for about an hour and it's like we went through the twilight zone. It's like we got zapped out of time.".

The station man replied,"I don't want to scare you but every year there have been murders around this time of year. It's like there was a curse on the town."

"Well ...uh.. we gotta go. How much do we owe you?" asked James.

"The man said,"No charge."

Butch turned to James and asked,"Don't you think that guy was sorta spooky?"

"Yes," said James.

"We-l, I wonder why he said no charge then we owed him $10.30. Oh well, who cares let's get out of here. I hate the looks of that station. We will have to find a hotel or some place to sleep until daybreak."

"Butch, my mom is gonna kill me."

James replied,"My mom is sure not going to give me roses either."

So they found an old dirt road they decided to follow and see where it led.

They came upon an abandoned house. Butch said,"You're crazy if you think I'm gogin anywhere near that spooky-looking house."

James said," Come on,wimp. This might be our room and board."

"I sure hope it's not haunted."

James asked,"You don't really believe in all that stuff ?"

Butch nodded."Sure I do."

"Well, we'll be o.k.. Let's take a look see what's in here.Would you look at this, Butch? The door is open. Yeah, look the lights are on and this house looks like it's been vacant for decades."

"Well ," said Butch,"That's one place I'd rather stay outside of."

"Be my guest." James started in.

"James,I have to tell you that I want you to have my atc if I don't make it."

"Quit thinking like that!"

"Think that gas station guy was telling the truth?"Butch asked.

"Are you kiddin'? He was trying to scare us away. "

"Anyways I hope we're out of here by tomorrow."

"Don't worry, Butch. We will be."

James rummaged around and handed something to Butch."Here are some blankets. I'll sleep here on the floor."

8th grade Basketball Team

7th grade Basketball - Undefeated!

"Good night," James said.

"Are you serious? Sleep here?"asked Butch.

"Butch you really amaze me. Guess what dude? Today's Halloween."

"Definitely we are not staying here," Butch said.

"We'll leave in the morning. Get some sleep."

Crash! They both awake with a start. "Let's get out of here." Both struggle with the door. It won't open. "Butch look out- amonster- behind you." Butch is struggling with the sheets. Jam wakes him. "Wake up. You've had a bad dream. Watch out mom."

jb/bm